

REMARKS

In the Office Communication mailed May 16, 2007, the Examiner states that the Response to the Restriction Requirement submitted by Applicant on February 26, 2007 was not fully responsive to the Office Action mailed on September 25, 2006, requiring that an election be made under 35 U.S.C. § 121. The Examiner states that the previous response did not make clear which restriction group Applicants intended to elect.

Applicants confirm their provisional election, with traverse, of group 311 (claims 16-17), directed to methods of evaluating the level of neuropathic pain in a mammal, wherein the surrogate marker of neuropathic pain is a nonredundant subsequence of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:471.

Applicants reiterate their traverse of the restriction requirement with respect to groups 311-320, and 891-896. Applicants respectfully refer the Examiner's attention to their remarks to this effect at pages 2-3 of the response filed on February 26, 2007.


Should the Examiner have any questions or concerns, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned Applicants' representative at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: June 1, 2007

By: _____


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